

PATENT
SERIAL NO. 10/786,974

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims 1 through 8 as shown and withdraw claims 9-16.

1. (Currently Amended) A silver-colored, tarnish-resistant, corrosion-resistant alloy ~~comprised~~ consisting essentially of:

92.5 to 95% by weight silver, the balance of which is an alloy comprised of:
approximately ~~29.75% ± 5%~~ 24-34% by weight zinc;
approximately ~~62.15% ± 5%~~ 60-74% by weight copper;
approximately ~~1.35% ± 5%; 0.85%~~ 0.5-1.8% by weight silicon; and
approximately ~~6.75% ± 1.25%; 6.75%~~ 0-8% by weight tin.

2. (Currently Amended) A silver-colored, tarnish-resistant, corrosion-resistant alloy consisting essentially of:

92.5 to 95% by weight silver, the balance of which is an alloy ~~comprised~~ consisting essentially of:

approximately ~~19.0% ± 5%~~ 19-29% by weight zinc;
approximately ~~74.8% ± 5%~~ 69.8-79.8% by weight copper; and
approximately ~~1.2% ± 5%~~ .7-1.7% by weight silicon.

3. (Currently Amended) A silver-colored, tarnish-resistant, corrosion-resistant alloy consisting essentially of:

92.5 to 95% by weight silver, the balance of which is an alloy ~~comprised~~ consisting essentially of:

approximately ~~32.60% ± 5%~~ 27.60-37.60% by weight zinc;
approximately ~~64.70% ± 5%~~ 59.7-69.7% by weight copper;
approximately ~~0.60% ± 5%~~ 0.5-1.8% by weight silicon;
approximately ~~0.90% ± 5%~~ 0.90-5% by weight tin; and
approximately ~~1.20% ± 5%~~ 0-1.5% by weight indium.

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4. (Currently Amended) A silver-colored, tarnish-resistant, corrosion-resistant alloy consisting essentially of:

92.5 to 95% by weight silver, the balance of which is an alloy ~~comprised~~
consisting essentially of:

approximately 29.75% by weight zinc;
approximately 62.15% by weight copper;
approximately 1.35% by weight silicon; and
approximately 6.75% by weight tin.

5. (Currently Amended) A silver-colored, tarnish-resistant, corrosion-resistant jewelry consisting essentially of:

92.5 to 95% by weight silver, the balance of which is an alloy ~~comprised~~
consisting essentially of:

approximately 24.0% by weight zinc;
approximately 74.8% by weight copper; and
approximately 1.2% by weight silicon.

6. (Currently Amended) A silver-colored, tarnish-resistant, corrosion-resistant jewelry consisting essentially of:

92.5 to 95% by weight silver, the balance of which is an alloy ~~comprised~~
consisting essentially of:

approximately 32.6% by weight zinc;
approximately 64.7% by weight copper;
approximately 0.6% by weight silicon;
approximately 0.9% by weight tin, and
approximately 1.2% by weight indium.

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7. (Currently Amended) A silver-colored, tarnish-resistant, corrosion-resistant jewelry consisting essentially of:

92.5 to 95% by weight silver, the balance of which is an alloy comprised consisting essentially of:

29.75 % by weight zinc;
62.15% by weight copper;
1.35% by weight silicon; and
6.75% by weight tin.

8. (Currently Amended) A silver-colored, tarnish-resistant, corrosion-resistant jewelry consisting essentially of:

92.5 to 95% by weight silver, the balance of which is an alloy comprised consisting essentially of:

32.60 % by weight zinc;
64.70% by weight copper;
0.60% by weight silicon;
0.90% by weight tin; and
1.20% by weight indium.

9. (Withdrawn). A tarnish-resistance, corrosion-resistance-improving alloy consisting essentially of:

24.0% by weight zinc;
74.8% by weight copper; and
1.2% by weight silicon.

10. (Withdrawn). A tarnish-resistance, corrosion-resistance-improving alloy consisting essentially of:

29.75% by weight zinc;
62.15% by weight copper;
1.35% by weight silicon; and
6.75% by weight tin.

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11. (Withdrawn). A tarnish-resistance, corrosion-resistance-improving alloy consisting essentially of:

32.60% by weight zinc;
64.70% by weight copper;
0.60% by weight silicon;
0.90% by weight tin; and
1.20% by weight indium.

12. (Withdrawn). A tarnish-resistance, corrosion-resistance-improving alloy consisting essentially of:

24.0% by weight zinc;
74.8% by weight copper;
1.2% by weight silicon;
0.0% tin; and
0.0 % indium.

13. (Withdrawn). A tarnish-resistance, corrosion-resistance-improving alloy consisting essentially of:

29.75% by weight zinc;
62.15% by weight copper;
1.35% by weight silicon;
6.75% by weight tin; and
0.0% indium.

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14. (Withdrawn). A method of making a tarnish-resistant, corrosion-resistant silver-colored alloy comprised of the steps of:
- depositing a first amount of silver in a crucible;
 - adding a second amount of Sterilite alloy to the crucible;
 - heating the silver and Sterilite in the crucible;
 - mixing the silver and Sterilite between the temperatures of approximately 875°C (1605°F) and 1010°C (1850°F);
 - holding the temperature of the mixed silver and Sterilite at a temperature of 1010°C (1850°F) for 30 seconds;
 - cooling the mixture to approximately 850°C (1562°F);
 - re-heating the mixture to approximately 980°C (1796°F); and
- pouring the molten mixture into a mold.
15. (Withdrawn). The method of claim 12 further comprised of the step of adding a flux to the Sterilite prior to heating in the crucible.
16. (Withdrawn). The method of claim 12 wherein the step of adding a flux is comprised of adding a small amount of Borax and Boric Acid to the Sterilite alloy.